Proposal to Launch a Girl Child Scheme

385. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has a proposal to launch a girl child scheme;

(b) if so, the main objectives of luanching the scheme;

(c) whether his Ministry has received funds for the purpose and disbursed them among the State Governments;

(d) if not, what is the present position; and

(e) by when the scheme is going to be launched?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI): (a), (b) and (e) The scheme of Balika Samriddhi Yojana has been launched throughout the Country on 2.10.1997. The main objective of the scheme is to raise the overall status of the girl child while changing family and community attitudes towards her and her mother.

(c) The funds for launching the scheme have been sanctioned to the District-level Implementing Agencies in States/UTs for the purpose.

(d) Does not apply.

Biscuit Scam

386. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:
SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that certain Delhi based traders who were supposed to supply biscuits every month for distribution by Government under the Integrated Child Development Services have been found to be using forged allotment letters and blank receipts etc. and got crores of rupees for the biscuits which were never supplied;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have made any investigation into the matter to identify the racket involved;

(d) if so, what is the outcome thereof; and

(e) what action has been taken by Government against those involved in the scandal?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The States of Haryana and Delhi were requested to enquire into these allegations. And, the Reports received from the State Governments of Haryana and Delhi contain a categorical denial on involvement of any racket in the purchase and distribution of biscuits, under the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme.

(e) Does not arise.

Funds Spent on Education

387. SHRI ASHOK MITRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total funds spent under education by the Central and State Governments during each of the years 1991-92 to 1996-97;

(b) the share of the Central Government in such expenditure; and

(c) whether Government have under contemplation any phased programme for reaching the national target of allocation 6 per cent of the gross domestic product for educational development?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) and (b) The